

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

WC-15J

November 6, 2012

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> 7099 3400 0000 9583 0971 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED



Re:

Docket No CWA-05-2012-0010

Dear FOIA Exemption (b) (6):

I have enclosed one copy of the fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) in the resolution of the above case. It was filed November 6, 2012, with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

The penalty amount agreed upon is \$3,200 which is due 60 days after the effective date of this CAFO. A Certified or Cashier Check should be made payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America," at the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center P.O. Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

When submitting your check, please be sure that the Case Docket Number is included at the bottom of your check.

There is now an On Line Payment Option available through the Department of Treasury at https://www.pay.gov which allows you to make payments using your credit card, checking or savings account. Using the Search Public Forms field (left side of page) enter "SFO 1.1" to access the EPA Miscellaneous Payments-Cincinnati Finance Center Form. Follow the instructions for payment.

As indicated in your CAFO, a copy of the check or electronic transfer must be sent to:

As indicated in your CAFO, a copy of the check or electronic transfer must be sent to:

LaDawn Whitehead (E-19J) Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA 77 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604

Joan Rogers (WC-15J) Environmental Scientist U.S. EPA 77 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604

Kevin Chow (C-14J)
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Rogers at (312) 886-2785.

Sincerely yours,

Dean Maraldo, Chief

Water Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Yurdin, IEPA

Cincinnati Finance Center, OEPA

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION 5**

IN THE MATTER OF:)	Docket No. CWA-05-2012-0010
FOIA Exemption (b) (6)	
d/b/a) FOIA Exemption (b) (6) FARM)	Proceeding to Assess a Class II Civil Penalty under Section 309(g) of the Clean Water Act
Respondents)	33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)
(Kespondents)	SEP 0 6 2012

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDERREGIONAL HEARING CLERK

Complainant, the Director of the Water Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 ("EPA"), and Respondents FOIA Exemption (b) (6) and FOIA Exemption (b) (6) d/b/a FOIA Exemption (b) (6) Farm, have agreed to the settlement of this action before the filing of a complaint. Therefore, this action is simultaneously commenced and concluded under Rules 22.13(b) and 22.18(b) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders, and the Revocation, Termination or Suspension of Permits found at 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b).

1.

- 2. EPA institutes this civil administrative proceeding for the assessment of a civil penalty pursuant to the authority granted in Section 309(g) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, commonly known as the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g).
- 3. Respondents consent to the entry of this Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO"), all of the conditions of this CAFO, and the assessment of the civil penalty as outlined in this CAFO.
- 4. EPA and Respondents agree that the settlement of this matter pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b) is in the public interest and that the entry of this CAFO without engaging in litigation is the most efficient means of resolving this matter.

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY BACKGROUND

- 5. To restore and maintain the integrity of the nation's water, Section 301(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), prohibits the discharge of any pollutant into navigable waters of the United States by any person, except in compliance with, *inter alia*, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit issued pursuant to Section 402 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.
- 6. Section 402 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1342, establishes the NPDES program under which EPA and, upon receiving authorization from EPA, a state, may permit discharges into navigable waters, subject to specific terms and conditions.
- 7. Section 502(6) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(6), and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2 define the term "pollutant" to mean, *inter alia*, solid waste, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, biological materials, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water.
- 8. Section 502(12) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(12), and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2 define the term "discharge of pollutant" to mean any addition of any pollutant to navigable waters from any point source.
- 9. Section 502(7) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(7), defines the term "navigable waters" to mean the waters of the United States.
- 10. 40 C.F.R. § 122.2 defines "waters of the United States" to include all waters which are, were or may be used in interstate or foreign commerce, including tributaries and wetlands.

- 11. Section 502(14) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14), and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2 define the term "point source" to mean any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance including, but not limited to, concentrated animal feeding operations from which pollutants are or may be discharged.
- 12. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 122.23(b)(1), an "animal feeding operation" is defined as a lot or facility where the following conditions are met:
 - (i) Animals have been, are or will be stabled or confined and fed or maintained for a total of 45 days or more in any 12-month period; and
 - (ii) Crops, vegetation, forage growth, or post-harvest residues are not sustained in the normal growing season over any portion of the lot or facility.
- 13. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 122.23(b)(4)(i), a "large concentrated animal feeding operation" is defined to include an animal feeding operation that stables or confines 2,500 or more swine each weighing greater than or equal to 55 pounds.
- 14. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §122.23(b)(2), a "concentrated animal feeding operation" includes an animal feeding operation that qualifies as a "large concentrated animal feeding operation."
- 15. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 122.21(a) and 122.23(d)(1), the owner or operator of a concentrated animal feeding operation which discharges must seek coverage under an NPDES permit.

- 16. Pursuant to Section 402(b) of the CWA, 42 U.S.C. § 1342(b), EPA has approved the State of Illinois, through the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, to administer the NPDES program, including the issuance of NPDES permits, in Illinois.
- 17. Section 309(g) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g), authorizes the Administrator to assess a Class II civil penalty under Section 309(g)(2)(B) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(2)(B), after consultation with the State, when the Administrator finds, on the basis of any information available, that a person has violated Section 301 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311, or has violated any permit condition or limitation implementing a permit issued under Section 402 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- 18. Complainant alleges that Respondents are a partnership doing business in the State of Illinois.
- 19. Complainant alleges that each Respondent is a "person" as defined by Section 502(5) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5), and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.
- 20. Complainant alleges that, at all times relevant to this CAFO, Respondents owned and operated a swine operation located at **FOIA Exemption (b) (6)** (the "Site").
- 21. Complainant alleges that, at all times relevant to this CAFO, Respondents had been or were stabling, confining, feeding or maintaining 2,500 or more swine over 55 pounds for a total of 45 days or more in a 12-month period at the Site.

- 22. Complainant alleges that, at all times relevant to this CAFO, crops, vegetation, forage growth, or post-harvest residues were not sustained in the normal growing season over any portion of the Site.
- 23. Complainant alleges that, at all times relevant to this CAFO, the Site was an "animal feeding operation" as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.23(b)(1).
- 24. Complainant alleges that, at all times relevant to this CAFO, the Site was a "large concentrated animal feeding operation" as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.23(b)(4)(i).
- 25. Complainant alleges that, at all times relevant to this CAFO, the Site was a "concentrated animal feeding operation" as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.23(b)(2).
- 26. Complainant alleges that an unnamed waterway flows adjacent to the Site. This unnamed waterway flows to Bear Creek Ditch. Bear Creek Ditch flows to New Columbia Ditch which in turn flows to Main Ditch. Main Ditch is also known as Old Cache River downstream from Route 45. Main Ditch/Old Cache River flows to the Post Creek Cutoff. The Post Creek Cutoff flows into the Ohio River.
- 27. Complainant alleges that the waterways described in Paragraph 26 are each a "navigable water" and are "waters of the United States" as those terms are defined by 33 U.S.C. § 1362(7) and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.
- 28. Complainant alleges that Respondents' activities at the Site resulted in the generation of wastes including manure, urine, litter, waste feed and process wastewater.

- 29. Complainant alleges that the wastes described in Paragraph 28, and constituents thereof, are pollutants as that term is defined by Section 502(6) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(6), and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.
- 30. Complainant alleges that, at all times relevant to this CAFO, Respondents did not have a permit under Section 402 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1342, for the discharge of pollutants from the Site.

Violations - Discharges without a Permit

- 31. Paragraphs 1 through 30 are re-alleged here as if set forth in full.
- 32. On April 28, 2009, EPA personnel conducted an inspection of the Site ("Inspection").
- 33. Complainant alleges that, at the time of the Inspection, runoff from the West Finishers barn areas and Big Holding Pond flowed through a storm water channel and emptied into the unnamed waterway referenced in Paragraph 26.
- 34. Complainant alleges that, at the time of the Inspection, runoff from the East Finishers Barns, the Mortality Pile, and the First Stage and Second Stage Lagoons flowed through a series of ditches and emptied into the unnamed waterway referenced in Paragraph 26.
- 35. Complainant alleges that the runoff described in Paragraphs 33 and 34 contained pollutants as described in Paragraphs 28 and 29.
- 36. Complainant alleges that the Site and the locations and ditch referenced in Paragraphs 33 and 34 are each a "point source" as that term is defined by Section 502(14) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14) and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.

- 37. Complainant alleges that the addition of pollutants to the unnamed waterway via the point sources described in Paragraphs 33 and 34 is a "discharge of pollutants" as that term is defined in Section 502(12) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(12), and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.
- 38. Complainant alleges that, by discharging pollutants to the unnamed tributary without a permit in 2009, Respondents violated Section 301 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311.

TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

Assessment and Payment of Penalty

- 39. Based upon the penalty factors set forth in Section 309(g) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g), EPA and Respondents agree to settle this matter for \$3,200.00.
- 40. For the purposes of this proceeding, and pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b) and (c), Respondents: (a) admit that EPA has jurisdiction over the subject matter set forth in this CAFO; and (b) neither admit nor deny the facts set forth in this CAFO.
- 41. For purposes only of the allegations and agreements made herein, upon execution of this CAFO, Respondents waive all rights to request a judicial or administrative hearing on any issue of law or fact set forth in this CAFO, including, but not limited to, their right to request a hearing under Section 309(g)(2)(B) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(2)(B), and their right to appellate review of the CAFO found at Section 309(g)(8)(B) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(8)(B).
- 42. Respondents must pay the \$3,200.00 civil penalty by mailing a certified or cashier's check made payable to "Treasurer, United States of America" within 60 days after Respondents and Complainant have executed this CAFO and it becomes effective.

43. Respondents must send the check to the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center P.O. Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

- 44. This civil penalty is not deductible for federal tax purposes.
- 45. A transmittal letter, stating Respondents' names, complete address, and the case docket number must accompany the payment. Respondents shall simultaneously and separately send notice of such payment, including a copy of the check, to each of the following three persons at the address indicated:

Regional Hearing Clerk Planning and Management Division (R-13J) EPA, Region 5 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Kevin Chow Associate Regional Counsel Office of Regional Counsel (C-14J) EPA, Region 5 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Joan Rogers Water Division (WC-15J) EPA, Region 5 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

- 46. Respondents' failure to pay the assessed civil penalty in accordance with the provisions of this CAFO will result in the referral of this matter to the United States Department of Justice for collection in accordance with Section 309(g)(9) of the CWA,

 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(9). In such an action, the validity, amount, and appropriateness of such penalty shall not be subject to review. In addition to any unpaid balance and interest on this penalty, Respondents shall also be required to pay attorney's fees and costs for collection proceedings and a quarterly nonpayment penalty. This nonpayment penalty shall be in an amount equal to 20% of the aggregate amount of Respondents' penalties and nonpayment penalties which are unpaid as of the beginning of each such quarter.
- 47. Notwithstanding any other provision of this CAFO, interest shall accrue on any amount overdue under the terms of this CAFO at an annual rate calculated in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.11.

OTHER MATTERS

- 48. This CAFO settles EPA's claims for civil penalties for the violations alleged above.
- 49. Nothing in this CAFO relieves Respondents of the duty to comply with the CWA or other federal, state or local laws or statutes.
- 50. Nothing in this CAFO is intended to, nor shall be construed to, operate in any way to resolve any criminal liability of Respondents arising from the violations alleged in this CAFO. Notwithstanding any other provision of this CAFO, EPA expressly reserves any and all rights to bring an enforcement action pursuant to the Section 504 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1364, or other

statutory authority should EPA find that the Site is presenting an imminent and substantial endangerment to the health or welfare of persons. EPA also expressly reserves the right: (a) to take any action authorized under Section 309 of the CWA for any matters other than the violations alleged in this CAFO; and (b) to enforce compliance with this CAFO.

- 51. This CAFO binds both parties, their officers, directors, employees, successors, and assigns to this action. The representative of each party signing this CAFO certifies that he or she has authority to enter into the terms of this CAFO and bind that party to it. Respondents shall give notice and a copy of this CAFO to any successor in interest prior to any transfer of ownership or operational control of the Site.
 - 52. Each party agrees to bear its own costs accrued in the course of this action.
- 53. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.38, the State was notified of this proceeding and the other terms of this settlement.
- 54. The effective date of this CAFO is the date that the CAFO is filed in the office of the Regional Hearing Clerk, after having been signed by the Regional Administrator or her designated representative and subjected to the requirements of Section 309(g)(4)(C) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(4)(C).
 - 55. This CAFO constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.
- 56. The information required to be maintained or submitted pursuant to this CAFO is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 et seq.

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

In the Matter of: FOIA Exemption (b) (6)

d/b/a FOIA Exemption (b) (6) Farm

Docket No.

CWA-05-2012-0010

Water Division

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region 5

FOIA Exemption (b) (6)

8-21-12

Date

FOIA Exemption (b) (6)

FOIA Exemption (b) (6) Farm

8-21-12 Date

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

In the Matter of: FOIA Exemption (b) (6)

d/b/a FOIA Exemption (b) (6) Farm

Docket No. CWA-05-2012-0010

FINAL ORDER

This CAFO is hereby approved. The Respondents are hereby ORDERED to comply with all of the terms of the CAFO effective immediately upon filing of this CAFO with the Regional Hearing Clerk. This CAFO disposes of this matter pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c).

By: ____

Dated: 10-31-12

Susan Hedman

Regional Administrator

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Region 5

NOV 0 6 2012

REGIONAL HEARING CLERK U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Docket No: CWA-05-2012-0010



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the original and one copy of this Administrative Complaint was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk on November 6, 2012, the above referenced document was sent Certified Mail to:

CERTIFIED MAIL 7099 3400 0000 9583 0971 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED



CERTIFIED MAIL 7001 0320 0006 0191 0165 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Bruce Yurdin Illinios Env. Prot. Agency Water Comp. Assurance Section 1021 N. Grand Avenue East Springfield, IL 62794-9276



REGIONAL HEARING CLERK U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Denise Moore Works Move	
Title:	Program Assistant
Date:	November 6, 2012
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